

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

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O 231234Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8299

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 0750

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: PATRIARCH KHURAYSH'S DECLARATIONS ON LEBANESE CRISIS

REF STATE 017378; BEIRUT 0741

1. QUOTED BELOW IS AN EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF PATRIARCH KHURAYSH'S STATEMENT MENTIONED IN BEIRUT 0741. SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ALTHOUGH STATEMENT WAS TWICE ANNOUNCED ON CLANDESTINE PHALANGE-CONTROLLED "VOICE OF LEBANON" RADIO, WE UNDERSTAND THAT PARTIARCH KHURAYSH, FOLLOWING URGENT TELEPHONE CALL FROM KHADDAM TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WAS UPSETTING THE NEGOTIATIONS, DECIDED TO WITHDRAW HIS OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT. IN A FORMAL SENSE, THEREFORE STATEMENT REMAINS A SORT ON "NON-STATEMENT".

2. BEGIN TEXT: SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE BLOODY EVENTS IN LEBANON, BKERKE HAS DENOUNCED AND CONTINUES TO DENOUNCE THESE EVENTS. WE HAVE CALLED FOR PEACE AND BROTHERLY UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THIS UNIFIED COUNTRY.

3. THE DETERIORATION OF THE EVENTS HAS REACHED A CLIMAX OF UNACCEPTABLE LIMITS. LEBANON HAS BECOME A LAUGHING STOCK IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD'S THINKERS, GOVTS, AND STATES.

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4. FOR SOME DAYS WE HAVE NOTICED A FLOOD OF THOUSANDS OF

FOREIGNERS ARMED WITH ALL KINDS OF WEAPONS ONLY POSSESSED BY REGULAR ARMY TROOPS, WHO CAME FROM THE NORTH AND THE EAST TO JOIN THOUSANDS OF FOREIGNERS WHO HAVE BEEN CRUMBLING LEBANON FOR THE LAST NINE MONTHS.

5. THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, BESIEGED AT HIS RESIDENCE BY THE FOREIGNERS, STATES THAT SYRIAN ARMY FORCES HAVE ENTERED LEBANON.

6. I CAN NO MORE KEEP MY SILENCE. I HAVE TO SAY EVERYTHING.

7. IN MY CAPACITY AS PATRIARCH OF THE MARONITE COMMUNITY, I ASK THE LEADERS OF ALL FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM AND HUMANITY IN LEBANON TO CONFER WITH ME IMMEDIATELY IN BKERKE.

8. I REQUEST THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPPUBLIC TO TAKE MATTERS FIRMLY IN HAND AND TO FIRMLY APPLY HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PRESERVATION OF FREEDOM AND LIVES IN LEBANON.

9. I APPEAL TO THE GOVTS AND PEOPLES OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD TO STIR THEIR CONSCIENCE AND HASTEN TO HELP MEN AND FREEDOM IN LEBANON.

10. I BEG OUR FATHER, HIS HOLINESS THE HOLY POPE TO HELP IN STIRRING THESE MINDS AND PUSCH THEM TO HELP LEBANON.

11. I ASK THE UNITED NATIONS TO HASTEN TO HELP ONE OF ITS MEMBERS WHOSE LAND IS VIOLATED BRUTALLY AND IS UNABLE TO ASK FOR HELP.

12. LEBANON DID NOT HARM ANYONE, DID NOT ATTACK ANYONE. IT WAS THE SOURCE OF WELFARE AND PEACE AND A REFUGE FOR ALL PERSECUTED PEOPLE FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE WORLD. WHY SHOULD LEBANON SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ARAB AND WORLD STRUGGLE ON ITS LAND?

13. LEBANON IS PREY TO AN OPEN ATTACK BY THE PALESTINIANS AND THE EXTREMIST ELEMENTS, FROM THE LIBYANS AND THE COMMUNISTS AND ANARCHISTS OF THE WORLD WHO INVADED LEBANON
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FROM ALL SIDES.

14. TO THOSE WHO SAY THAT THIS IS A CIVIL STRIFE WE TELL THEM IT IS NOT.

15. IF THE WORLD CONSCIENCE IS NOT MOVED, I SHALL HEAD A BIG DEMONSTRATION AND MARCH TOWARDS BEIRUUT. I SHALL BRING WITH ME THE REMNANTS OF THOSE LEFT FROM THE CHURCHES AND

MONASTRIES. I SHALL SHOW THEM THE SLAIN CHILDREN AND
WOMEN WHO WERE MOLESTED BY THESE FOREIGNERS.

16. I APPEAL TO EVERY PERSON AND EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD
TO GO BACK TO THEIR CONSCIENCE AND HASTEN TO HELP LEBANON.

17 I SHALL NOT ACCEPT THE DOWNFALL OF LEBANON WHILE I SIT
IDLE.

18. BKERKE HAS SAID ITS WORD NOW AND SHALL AGITATE UNTIL
THE LAST MARONITE AND THE LAST MONK. END TEXT.
LAMBRAKIS

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